

## Chapter One

### Lodica *Herring* Farnham (1863-1951)

In 1990 Grace Carroll the granddaughter of Lodica Farnham (Figure 1) was asked by her 12 year old granddaughter Denise Carroll, "Do you remember any interesting stories about your ancestors and is there any part of our family's past that you are especially proud of?" Grace responded<sup>1</sup> "I do not know where my dad's family came from, but I do know my Grandmother Lodica's father came from Germany his last name was Herring and he was an early settler in Michigan. He was a tailor, but in this country he was a pioneer and farmer. I know that the life was hard. There were Indians, and wolves and bears around. My grandmother tells about digging out bear dens and killing the bears and clubs. Also about wolves and wild dogs who killed sheep and farm animals. She also told me about her oxen that she raised and drove. Her mother died when she was 12 or 13 and she had to take over the household chores. She also knew how to make salves and medication out of herbs and wild growing plants. I am proud of my grandmother who knew all of these things and was a hard worker who raised 4 children out of 8."



Figure 1: Lodica Herring Farnham

Lodica was born September 8, 1863 in Toronto, Canada<sup>2 3 4</sup>. Lodica's parents are John Herring and Harriet Mehitable Farnham. Harriet Farnham was the daughter of Isaac Farnham<sup>5</sup> a farmer who lived in Otisco, New York. A will probate<sup>6</sup> of Isaac establishes the

<sup>1</sup> Written response by Grace Carroll for Denise Carroll's 1990 genealogy class project; Transcript privately held by William Carroll, West Chester, Ohio.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. C.O. Farnham Expires, Aged 28; Cortland Standard, New York, Monday Evening, November 12, 1951, page 2, column 3.

<sup>33</sup> New York Office of Vital Statistics, marriage certificate 10641 (1867), Curtis O. Farnham-Lodica Haerring, New York State Department of Health, Albany.

<sup>4</sup> New York Office of Vital Statistics, death certificate 66631 (Nov 12, 1951), Lodica Farnham, New York State Department of Health, Albany.

<sup>5</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Onondaga County, New York, population schedule, Otisco, p182A dwelling 154, family 165, Isaac Farnham-head, digital images, Ancestry.com.

<sup>6</sup> Onondaga County, New York, Surrogate Court Book 36, page 35+, Proving the last will and testament of Isaac Farnham; Onondaga County Surrogate Court in Syracuse New York.